

**Appln No. 10/621,988**

**Amdt date June 26, 2007**

**Reply to Office action of February 26, 2007**

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

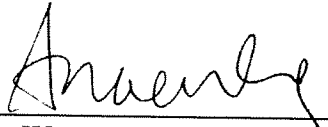
In the Office action dated February 26, 2007, the Examiner rejected all of pending claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly obvious over Marcus, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,295,484) in view of one or more of Panescu, et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0078509), Chandrasekaran, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,394,956) and Crowley, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,004,269). However, Applicant has amended independent claim to recite that the ultrasound transducer comprises inner, central and outer layers, wherein the central layer is adapted to contract and expand when an alternating current is applied across the outer and inner layers. None of Marcus, Panescu, Chandrasekaran and Crowley teach or suggest such a feature. Accordingly, independent claim 1 and all claims dependent therefrom, including claims 2-16, are allowable over Marcus, Panescu, Chandrasekaran and Crowley.

Claims 1-16 remain pending in this application, with claims 17-45 withdrawn from consideration. By this amendment, Applicant has amended claim 1. In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all of pending claims 1-16 are in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests reconsideration and timely indication of allowance. However, if there are any remaining issues that can be addressed by telephone, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact Applicant's counsel at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

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